REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 16 and 24. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 16-32 are rejected under 35 USC 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Applicant previously argued that the claims were not directed to non-statutory subject matter. However, the Applicant has amended the claims to change the language so that the claims may be more acceptable. The Applicant has amended various claims in order to place the claims in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-6, 9-12, 14, 16-22, 24-27 and 30-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Blakeley, III et al (US Publication No. 2004/0128378) herein referred to as Blakeley. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of these claims and paragraph references to the present application are taken from the USPTO copy of the present application.

The Examiner cites Blakley (paragraph [0087]) as teaching the preamble of the Applicant's claim 1. The preamble of Applicant's claim 1 recites structure that is not found in Blakley; at least that of "an attribute offering being published in a <u>Discovery Service Framework" (DSF)</u>. The Applicant respectfully submits that DSF is not found or taught in Blakley and though the term "framework" is found in Blakley, the thrust of the term framework is different from that of the Applicant's use of the word Framework. Blakley teaches framework, in the common sense, as in a 'structure'. In contrast the Applicant is disclosing a term of art 'Discovery Service Framework' which is used for

receiving, storing and dispensing data <u>extracted</u> from a user's attribute offerings (paragraph [0076]).

Paragraph [0087] in Blakley actually discusses the differences between a "<u>typical</u> federated computing environment" and Blakley's version of a federated computing environment. In paragraph [0087] Blakley is merely describing attribute information providers in a federated environment, where attribute information providers manage user attributes as a service. In summary, Blakley discloses and teaches use of an Attribute Information Provider (AIP) having attribute information for each user and a ECSP is configured with a number of AIPs which the ECSP searches for the Attribute of a particular user. The user also has the ability to direct attribute retrieval to potential AIPs if the known AIPs don't have the attribute. (paragraph [0112])

Limitations found in claim 16 show that the DSF also includes a "trigger handler" for handling a registration trigger. The first element of claim 1 registers an offering registration <u>trigger</u> in the Discovery Service Framework. The DSF also stores data <u>extracted</u> from the registration trigger in the trigger handler – a part of the DSF. The trigger is not taught or suggested in Blakley and is a function of the DSF (paragraph [0081]).

The Detailed Action indicates on page 5 that the Attribute Provider registration is equivalent to Blakley's authentication of data and the authentication triggers the process for requested attributes. Blakley's authentication process (described in paragraphs [47], [68], et al.) is for identifying requestors prior to releasing information. This is in direct contradiction to the Applicant's claim which states registering an offering registration <u>trigger</u> in the DSF. The Attribute Providers and Requestors are already part of the group and are privy to attributes the user provides to the DSF, without authentication. The Applicant's trigger is not an authentication; the trigger is a prompt to generate an action and is described as such throughout the Applicant's specification, in particular in paragraph [0081].

A difference between the Applicant's claim 1 and Blakley is the use of the Discovery Service Framework. And, note that the DSF stores data <u>extracted</u> from the attribute offering, not necessarily all the data in the offering because that is how the

DSF works. As disclosed in paragraph [0076], "[T]he DSF stores <u>data extracted from</u> this attribute offering in a local storage and makes it public and accessible for other service providers...".

When a request is received from a Requestor, the "...DSF fetches relevant information about the attribute offering and sends it back ... to the Requestor. (para. [0088]). Note that only "relevant information" is provided to the Requestor. Also, when Attributes are registered and privacy policies are taken into consideration, "...[t]he user may indicate... a user's consent to share any particular user's attribute ...(para. [0075]).

The Blakley reference is lacking at least the trigger and DSF elements of claim 1. This being the case, the Applicant respectfully submits that Blakley does not anticipate claim 1 and requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and analogous, amended independent claims 9, 16 and 24, which contain similar limitations.

Claims 2-6, 10-12, 14, 17-22, 25-27 and 30-32 depend from independent claims 1, 9, 16 and 24 respectively and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of the independent claims. The allowance of these dependent claims is also respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 7, 8, 13, 15, 20, 23, 28 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blakeley et al (US Publication No 2004/0128378 A1) as applied to claims 1, 9, 16 and 24 above, and further in view of Underwood (US Patent No. 6,633,878 B1), here in referred to as Underwood. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

The Applicant respectfully submits that a person skilled in the art would not look to Underwood to solve the problem of what to do when the attribute offering is withdrawn once the user signs off. The Applicant has reviewed the cited portion of Underwood and respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's interpretation and the application of the interpretation. The sign-off discussed in the Underwood reference is to signal that a change request meets the needs of the person that requested the change; i.e., the change has been successfully completed – not withdrawal of a trigger.

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Underwood is concerned with issue tracking and for initializing a database used with an issue tracker. The issue tracker receives information relating to a plurality of issues from a plurality of users, displays the information relating to the issues, and allows the browsing of the information relating to each of the issues (Summary). Even though Underwood is in data processing (actually programming) and e-commerce, the Applicant respectfully submits that this reference is not one that would be used to solve sign.
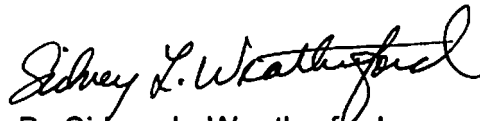
Additionally, the Underwood reference does not supply at least the missing limitations of the DSF and trigger found in the independent claims 1, 9, 16 and 24. This being the case the Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of claims 7, 8, 13, 15, 20, 23, 28 and 29.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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